



MTS-3224US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 09/711,613
Applicant: Takashi Higashida, et al.
Filed: November 13, 2000
Title: RECORDING APPARATUS, METHOD AND
PROGRAM RECORDING MEDIUM (as amended)
TC/A.U.: 2616
Examiner: Robert Chevalier

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of the references listed on the 1449 form is enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The references were cited by a foreign patent examining authority in connection with the examination of a counterpart of the above identified application. A copy of this English language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609A(3), second paragraph.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The required fee of \$180. set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

DNC/dmw

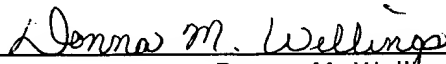
Enclosures: PTO Form 1449
(5) References
Search Report
Transmittal Form
PTO-2038

Dated: January 20, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

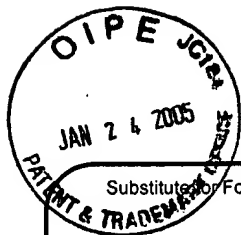
The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 20, 2005.



Donna M. Wellings

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Substituted for Form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/711,613 |
| Filing Date | November 13, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Takashi Higashida, et al. |
| Art Unit | 2616 |
| Examiner Name | Robert Chevalier |
| Attorney Docket No. | MTS-3224US |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (If known) | | | |
| | | US-5,548,757 | 08/20/1996 | TSUTOSHI MATSUYAMA, ET AL. | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known) | | | | |
| | | EP 0 971 358 A | 01/12/2000 | MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | EP 0 399 853 A | 11/28/1990 | SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | EP 1 037 211 A | 09/20/2000 | SONY CORPORATION | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | EP 0 584 804 A | 03/02/1994 | MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

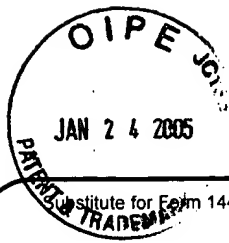
⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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(AW 08/03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/711,613 |
| Filing Date | November 13, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Takashi Higashida, et al. |
| Art Unit | 2616 |
| Examiner Name | Robert Chevalier |
| Attorney Docket No. | MTS-3224US |

SHEET 2 of 2

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T ² |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | European Search Report for EP 00 12 4561, dated December 15, 2004. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Examiner
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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

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